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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am a consumer on a fixed income. After paring down everything possible (including) in order to stay within my very meager limits, I urge you to welcome more competition. You will have a near monopoly on internet and telephone services and will increase the rates for these critical services.

My internet and telephone are provided by a competitive local company. Broadband and local broadband are essential and it would be a travesty if the FCC were to eliminate these services.

Say no to monopolies. We count on you to think of the financial limitations of people like myself, people in underserved rural communities, and people who support competitive providers. Without my current provider, I would have nothing because I can't afford the current rates of the big companies. Not one.

Please help those who have already sacrificed so much in order to live within our means.

Mariko Hewitt